

## REMARKS

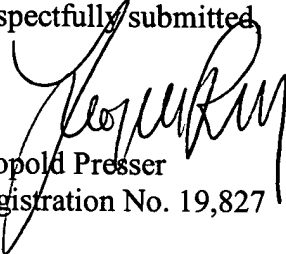
Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

In this preliminary amendment, applicants have canceled original Claims 7-13 since those claims are the subject matter of co-pending application U.S. Serial No. 09/915,786, filed July 26, 2001. Applicants have also amended the specification to include reference to the parent application.

Since the above amendments to the claims and specification do not introduce new matter into the application, entry thereof is respectfully requested.

Consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are thus respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted



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LP:gc